



# The Steeple

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity  
.....where faith holds wide the door



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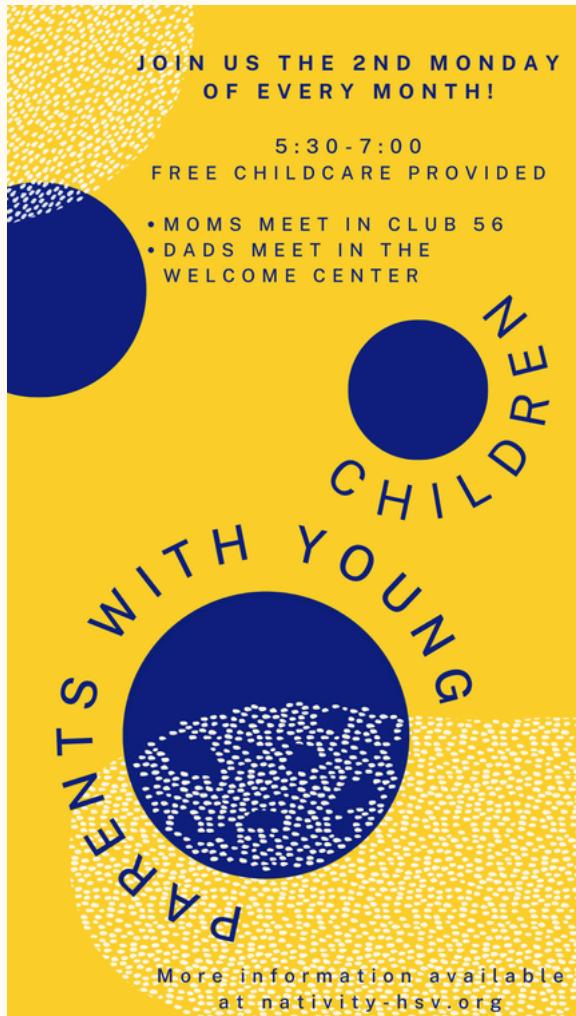
Becoming  
Be

# PARISH ENGAGEMENT



Join us for a Pancake Party! If you are interested in helping with this event, please contact Vicky Hinton at [Victoriahinton1217@gmail.com](mailto:Victoriahinton1217@gmail.com)

# PARISH ENGAGEMENT



## PARENTS OF YOUNG CHILDREN

Calling all parents of young children! This group meets on the 2nd Monday of every month. Free childcare and dinner for the kids are provided. Moms meet in Club 56 and Dads meet in the Welcome Center. This month's meeting is March 10th from 5:30-7pm.

## Men's Breakfast

Join for the Men's Breakfast group on Tuesday, March 11th at 7:00am. All are welcome for food and fellowship!

# PARISH ENGAGEMENT



Stop by the Welcome Center during the St. Patrick's Day parade from 10:30am-12:30pm Saturday March 15th!



Celebrating Nativity Women

Join the women's group as they gather for "Weaving with Q" Sunday, March 23rd in Ridley Hall. 5-7pm

# PARISH ENGAGEMENT

LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH IS

## CHURCH NIGHT

March 26th

FREE SPAGHETTI SUPPER SERVED  
FROM 5:30-6:30 IN RIDLEY HALL

NURSERY & DROP IN ACTIVITIES FOR  
CHILDREN OF ALL AGES 5:00-7:00

MEETING SPACE AVAILABLE FOR  
COMMITTEES, REUNION GROUPS AND  
BIBLE STUDY GROUPS



CLICK HERE  
TO LET US KNOW  
YOU ARE COMING



STEWARDSHIP 2025

# EVERYONE COUNTS

EVERY PERSON, EVERY PLEDGE

Our church has been a source of stability, comfort and joy for generations. We all benefit from the legacy of those who have gone before us and we share in all that Nativity offers us day in and day out. Our Becoming One Body capital campaign is a truly significant way for us to demonstrate our commitment to maintaining and improving the iconic properties we all enjoy.

While planning and preparing for the future is very important, we cannot neglect the essential annual pledge campaign. Your generous annual pledge sustains the ministries and daily work of our church, and serves as clear indication of your faithful gratitude for all that God has given. On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I want to thank you for all you do to help Nativity thrive. Thanks be to God.

**Patrick Robbins**  
Stewardship Committee Chair

Please click [HERE](#) to make your 2025 pledge.



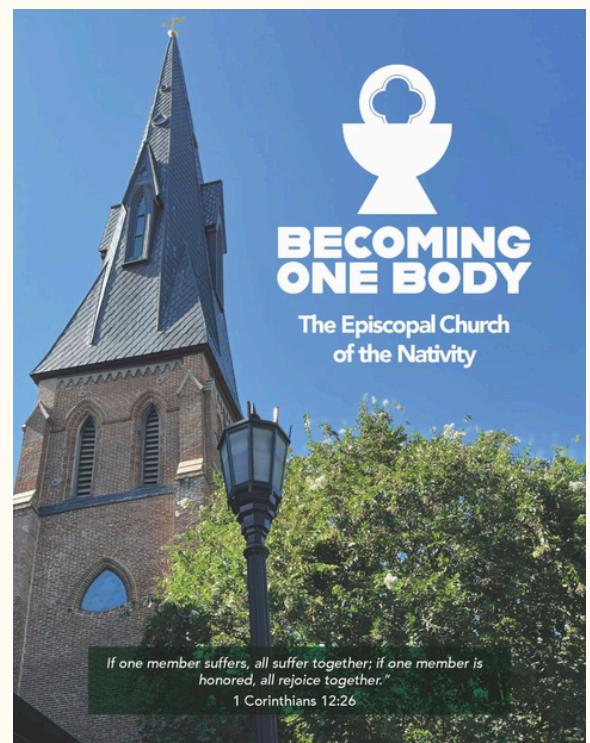
# BECOMING ONE BODY

**“If one member suffers, all suffer together;  
if one member is honored, all rejoice together.”**  
1 Corinthians 12:26

The Becoming One Body Campaign is going strong!  
Please use the links below for more information, frequently asked questions, and to make your pledge.

Please click [HERE](#) for a closer look into the Becoming One Body Campaign.

Please click [HERE](#) to make your Becoming One Body Pledge.



# LENT

## Ash Wednesday

March 5, 2025



Services:  
7:00am in Bibb Chapel  
12:00pm in the Nave  
6:30pm in the Nave  
6:30pm Ash Wednesday for Kids in  
Ridley Hall

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

## Wednesdays in Lent



Join us Wednesdays at Noon

The Holy Eucharist, Rite II with Healing in the Nave  
Free Soup Lunch in Ridley Hall following the service

NATIVITY-HSV.ORG

## Preparing Our Hearts for Lent

*A Collection of Meditations for Lent*

"Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me."

Psalm 51:11

The Episcopal Church of the Nativity  
2025

Click [HERE](#) to receive  
Lenten Devotionals

### The Season of Lent

The Lenten season is a time when Christians emphasize prayer, fasting, and self-denial, usually in the form of giving something up or taking something on. Whatever one may choose to do, the underlying purpose is to be drawn into a deeper relationship with God. It is interesting to note that the Litany for Penitence on Ash Wednesday is very inwardly focused, praying for forgiveness for those acts that we, as individuals, have done; whereas, by the time we reach Good Friday near the end of Lent, the Solemn Collects of Good Friday have shifted our focus from ourselves to concerns for other people. It is our hope that over the course of the Lenten season, we will become less inwardly focused and, instead, be drawn more to the needs of others. "I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word" (BCP 265).

Mother Melissa

# Greene Street Market

## by Pattie Cline



Greene Street Market began in 2010 with an idea, a purpose, a lot of hard work, and many prayers. After 15 years, we have evolved into a 501(c)3 organization, managed entirely by volunteers. Over \$350,000. has been donated to organizations in need in the Huntsville community. Groups such as Boys and Girls Clubs of North Alabama, Manna House, First Stop, Meals on Wheels, Kids to Love and many more have received our gifts. These funds are generated from sponsors, donations, and income from our tent/space rental to vendors. Our volunteers give their time and talents year-round to create a special place where all are welcome.

If you enjoy GREEN STREET MARKET and what it offers, become a GSM VOLUNTEER by calling Marilyn Evans at 256-682-4429. If you prefer to DONATE, send a check ( made to GSM ) to the church, 208 Eustis Avenue, 35801. Your donations will purchase market equipment and repair items we have (tents, tables, chairs). These donations also are distributed to people in need each year through our community gift. If you are interested in sponsoring a market, contact Pattie Cline at 259-651-6497.

Most importantly, your support in any capacity greatly benefits our farmers, shoppers, and our beloved Huntsville community. This helps strengthen the healthy food system we have been building for 15 years.



# BIBLE STUDIES

THE GOOD BOOK

## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays  
Starting January 8  
1:00-2:30pm  
Joffrion Library

Book:  
Mary of Nazareth  
by Christopher Bryan

Led by:  
The Rev. Susan Sloan  
The Rev. Dr. Virginia Monroe  
Jill Chadwick  
Marina Prucha



WISLETTER  
e.com

### Reflections Bible Study

Thursdays

9:30-11:00am

The Banister Room

Heaven by Jennifer Rothschild

Questions? [steph@ortel.us](mailto:steph@ortel.us)

Led By: Mem Bryant, Lisa Caprio, Debbie

Collette, Kana Goldsmith, Shelley Whitney

### MEN'S BIBLE STUDY



Wednesdays

10:30 AM  
Joffrion Library



The Lectionary  
led by Deacon Bob  
[bserio@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:bserio@nativity-hsv.org)



# STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION

## The Importance of Using Native Plants in Landscaping: A Call to Stewardship by Stacia Williams

As we prepare for spring and begin selecting plants for our yards and gardens, it is important to consider the role of native plants in our landscaping. By incorporating native species, we align ourselves with God's call to be good stewards of the earth. In Genesis 2:15, we read: The Lord God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it. This passage reminds us that caring for the land is not just a responsibility but a sacred duty.

One simple yet impactful step we can take in this stewardship is incorporating native plants into our gardens. There are several reasons to choose native plants.

### 1. Restoring the Natural Ecosystem

Over time, urbanization and the expansion of non-native lawns have led to the decline of native plant species. This loss affects the entire ecosystem, from pollinators to birds and other wildlife. Native plants serve as a foundation for the food chain, providing essential habitat and sustenance for insects, which in turn feed birds and other animals.

### 2. Supporting Pollinators and Birds

Native plants attract and sustain local pollinators, such as bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds. These species play a crucial role in fertilizing plants, ensuring the production of fruits, vegetables, and flowers. Many bird species rely on insects that thrive in native plant environments. By eliminating native flora, we inadvertently contribute to declining bird populations.

### 3. Conservation of Natural Resources

Unlike exotic plants, native species are well-adapted to their environment. They require less water, fewer fertilizers, and minimal maintenance. In regions with hot summers, native plants are naturally resilient, reducing the need for irrigation and chemical treatments. This not only saves time and money but also protects water sources from harmful runoff caused by pesticides and fertilizers.

Continued on next page.....

This may seem like a daunting task. However, making the shift toward native landscaping does not have to be overwhelming. There are small steps you can take to incorporate native plants into your landscape. You can start small by dedicating a section of your lawn to a butterfly or pollinator garden using native plants. This small change can significantly impact local biodiversity. Lawns require frequent watering, mowing, and chemical treatments. By replacing portions of your lawn with native plants, you decrease maintenance needs while benefiting the environment. Another step would be to eliminate using pesticides. Many pesticides kill beneficial insects, disrupting the ecosystem. Reducing or eliminating their use can help attract more birds and beneficial insects to your yard and reduce your monthly expenses.

Lastly, resources such as the [Land Trust of Alabama](#) and the Audubon Society provide valuable information on selecting the right native plants for your area. Additionally, The Botanical Gardens host a native plant sale each spring, making it easy to find suitable species for your landscape.

By choosing native plants, we answer God's call to be caretakers of His creation. This simple yet impactful step reflects our commitment to sustainability and respect for the environment. As we plan our spring gardens, let us remember that the choices we make in our yards reflect our stewardship of God's world.



# NATIVITY CHILDREN

## Ash Wednesday for Kids



Join us for a short,  
kid-friendly service

with ashes and Lenten activities

**Wednesday, March 5**  
**6:30 in Ridley Hall**

Questions: [ecantrell@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:ecantrell@nativity-hsv.org)

### PLANNING COMMITTEE 2025

#### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

HELP US PLAN AN AMAZING  
VBS FOR OUR NATIVITY KIDS!

email  
[ecantrell@nativity-hsv.org](mailto:ecantrell@nativity-hsv.org)  
to sign up!

MEETINGS WILL  
BE AT NIGHT--  
YOU DO NOT  
HAVE TO BE  
AVAILABLE VBS  
WEEK TO HELP  
PLAN!



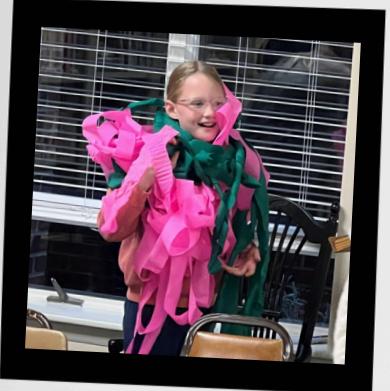
SAVE THE DATE  
**VBS**  
**JUNE 23-25**

Church of the Nativity

MORE DETAILS  
TO FOLLOW

# dub 56.

*fun!*



# NATIVITY YOUTH



Would you like to provide dinner for EYC? [Sign up HERE](#). Message Madi for more details  
mbellcolpack@nativity-hsv.org



SAVE THE DATE

# Church of the Nativity Youth Confirmation

MARCH 30 2025

Classes will be held during Sunday School on

|             |                           |
|-------------|---------------------------|
| January 26  | March 2                   |
| February 2  | March 16                  |
| February 9  | March 22 (Retreat)        |
| February 23 | March 23 / 26 (Rehearsal) |



## SPRING CONFERENCE

**Where:** Camp McDowell

**When:** April 10-12

**Who:** ALL 9-12th graders

**Cost:** \$185

**What:** Join us at our last Youth Department event of the year for fun, rest, fellowship, and program led by Rev. Corey Jones!!!

## Events at Camp McDowell

Click [HERE](#) to sign up for Spring Conference!

Click [HERE](#) to email Jen Manning and let her know you are interested in Summer Outreach!

# YOUNG ADULTS

## NATIVITY YOUNG ADULTS

**MAR  
4**

### **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE PARTY**

@5:30PM // Come enjoy free  
pancake dinner!

### **COOKING FOR COLLEGE GROUP @ 5:30**

Come help prepare a meal and St.  
Patrick's themed punch & dessert

**MAR  
17**

**APR  
10**

### **TOUR W/ ALTAR GUILD**

6:30 PM // Enjoy a tour w/ Altar Guild then  
dinner @ Sam & Greg's (provided by Nativity)

### **EVENING W/ FLOWER GUILD**

7:00 - 9:00PM // Take home a  
floral arrangement after a visit w/  
Flower Guild!

**MAY  
8**



**MORE INFO:**

**MBELLCOLPACK@NATIVITY-HSV.ORG**

# Adult Sunday School

**Book Class (Joffrion Library)** - The Book Class will read *Living a Life that Matters* by Harold Kushner. Kushner tells us that the path to a truly successful and significant life is through friendship, through family, and through acts of generosity and self-sacrifice. He describes how, in affecting the life of even one person in a positive way, we make a difference in the world and prove that we do in fact matter.

## Zimmerman Class(Banister Room)

**Choose Your Own Adventure Bible Study Class (second floor Joffrion)** - No preparation is required for this class led by Mother Rosie.

**Creation Care Class (Welcome Center)** - "Love God; Love God's World". This follow an Episcopal Church curriculum that has a similar structure to Sacred Ground and includes films, readings and discussion focused on creation care and eco-justice.

**Adult Confirmation Class (Bibb Chapel)** - This class is open to everyone who wants to learn more about the Episcopal Church. **YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE SEEKING CONFIRMATION TO ATTEND!** We are talking about the basics of the Episcopal tradition, including church history, the Book of Common Prayer, theology, and why we do what we do in worship. If you are thinking about being baptized, confirmed, received into the Episcopal Church, or formally reaffirming your baptismal vows or if you want to learn more about the Episcopal Church, please join us. Questions? Contact Mother Melissa.



Click [HERE](#) for job description



## Parish Financial Report January 2025

|                       | <u>Budget for Period</u> | <u>Actual for Period</u> | <u>Budget YTD</u>   | <u>Actual YTD</u>   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Pledges Received      | \$132,934.51             | \$137,013.34             | \$132,934.51        | \$137,013.34        |
| Plate                 | \$15,312.50              | \$24,968.02              | \$15,312.50         | \$24,968.02         |
| Other Revenues        | \$12,225.26              | \$7,360.34               | \$12,225.26         | \$7,360.34          |
| <b>Total Income</b>   | <b>\$160,472.27</b>      | <b>\$169,341.70</b>      | <b>\$160,472.27</b> | <b>\$169,341.70</b> |
| Diocese & Missions    | \$17,789.63              | \$19,437.77              | \$17,789.63         | \$19,437.77         |
| Outreach              | \$14,823.70              | \$15,001.20              | \$14,823.70         | \$15,001.20         |
| Personnel             | \$88,378.15              | \$82,876.99              | \$88,378.15         | \$82,876.99         |
| Other Expenses        | \$39,475.89              | \$38,201.60              | \$39,475.89         | \$38,201.60         |
| <b>Total Expenses</b> | <b>\$160,467.37</b>      | <b>\$155,517.56</b>      | <b>\$160,467.37</b> | <b>\$155,517.56</b> |
| <b>Net</b>            | <b>\$4.90</b>            | <b>\$13,824.14</b>       | <b>\$4.90</b>       | <b>\$13,824.14</b>  |



[\*\*CLICK HERE TO  
SUBMIT AN EASTER  
FLOWER  
DEDICATION\*\*](#)

[\*\*CLICK HERE  
JANUARY VESTRY  
MINUTES\*\*](#)

*Expecting  
Families*

We want to add you to the prayer list!  
Once the baby is born, we want to bring  
you a meal and a little gift!

★ ★ ★ Contact Rachael Samples to be  
added to the list.  
rsamples@nativity-hsv.org



**HAPPY  
BIRTHDAY  
TO OUR NATIVITY  
KIDS!**

Caroline Abney  
Raz Aboudonia  
Celie Brocato  
Jennings Brown  
Lucy Cooper  
Wyatt Donovan  
Leanna James  
John Collier Lotz  
Emma Mauldin

James Nation  
Colin Orr  
Alana Putt  
Anna Ragsdale  
Gavin Ray  
Brooks Spano  
John Steigner  
Anna Franklin Stroud  
Charles Wells



**The Episcopal Church of the Nativity  
208 Eustis Avenue SE Huntsville, AL 35801  
256.533.2455 Fax: 256.533.2374  
[nativity-hsv.org](mailto:nativity-hsv.org)**

**2025 Altar Flower and Easter Flower Dedications  
Available Dates: August 17, 24, 30 September 7, 14, 28  
Easter: April 20, 2025  
The deadline for Easter Dedications is April 13th**



Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_  
Dates requested: \_\_\_\_\_

Check this Box for Easter:

Name(s) for dedication: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one:  
\_\_ in loving memory of... \_\_ in thanksgiving for...  
\_\_ in celebration of... \_\_ in honor of...

Will you share this dedication? \_\_ YES \_\_ NO      Can we list your name in the bulletin? \_\_ YES \_\_ NO

Dedications are \$40 or \$20 for Easter Dedications

Make check payable to:

Nativity Flower Guild and mail your check along with this form to:

Andrea Vandervoort

484 Locust Ave. Huntsville, AL 35801

Questions? Call Andrea: 256-539-2673